Peabody Enterprise

1917-1922 **Fifth Anniversary of the City of Peabody** Section II

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF PEABODY--TOWN AND CITY

(Written By GEORGE ROBERT NELSON)

THE history of Peabody could well be divided in five eras. Originally a part of Salem in 1752 the incorporation of Danvers transferred it to that town. From that date it remained a part of Danvers until in 1855 South Danvers became a separate township. Thus the first era. From that date to 1868 could be classed as another era for then the name of Peabody was taken, named after its benefactor George Peabody. The third era from 1868 to 1886 brings us to the leather strike and in the latter year the leather business so changed that the brogan and wax leathers practically went out and chrome tanning came in. It took some time to bring this change about but nevertheless the strike at that time marks the change. From 1886 to 1917 the fourth era is registered. This era followed the tendency of the times, and large corporations were organized and the leather business was placed on a basis entirely different. The last or fifth era began with Peabody becoming a city. Its six years of existence changed over the political life of the city ,and whether the change from a town to a city is best will be told in future events. Six years is a short time to judge, and we leave this most important theme to the judgment of our readers and Father Time.

History tells us the middle precinct of Salem was practically the bounderies of Peabody at the present time. The other two precincts were Salem and Danvers of today. We are back to 1710. The incorporation of Danvers in 1752 made a territory of approximately 19,000 acres. The history of those sections was enveloped around the history of Salem, and the comparatively small population made little history, but progress and growth. Frontier warfare occupied the attention of the settlers frequently, and only the sturdy men and women who fought the fight of life, made it possible for us to possess our ways of today.

We were associated with Danvers for over a century. With the many brooks which our section contained, it was natural for those who had any knowledge of tanning to turn their energies in that direction. Thus we became a leather town.

The settlement of Salem was started in 1628. When Endicott and his companions arrived on this land their move was along the shores. It took years to accomplish little. Gradually moving back into the interior there was found water in plenty and land was fertile. The North river of which the present generation has heard so much, was the outlet for all these bodies of water to the Atlantic ocean. The water then was clear and sparkling but now they tell us it may sparkle but deny the clearness. The Peabody of today was then called Brooksby. They also called us the "Farms" and the inhabitants the "Farmers". As Salem became a city of commerce and many of its people became rich by trading with foreign countries, a natural social separation gradually took place.

The original road or way from Salem to Danvers Center was by Danvers river. Then a road was built over Gallows Hill and along where Aborn street now is, and by the way of North Central street to Danvers Center. Roads in those days were little more than cow paths. The "big tree" on Boston street was a land mark for two centuries. When cut down a few years ago, a stone at its base was dated 1707. So in the early times the map of greater Salem shows us a single street or way, the Atlantic ocean making up to what was Fry's mills on Goodhue street, and the brooks far larger than today wending their way through the several sections of what is now Peabody by way of North river to the ocean. Ship Rock located in South Peabody and owned by the Essex Institute has been visited by thousands and affords one a view of nature out of the usual. The several hills afford a view of the surrounding country on the east side to the Atlantic ocean.

Captain William Trask was one of the first settlers whose name comes down to us. He owned several mills located on the brooks which flowed through the settlement. And although he lived in 1635 the North river evidently was polluted for he received a fatherly admonition from the court "to be more careful about his grinding and Towle taking". This man Trask held a monopoly of the mill business, and in those days there was no law to stop him. The settlement of the land about Peabody square commenced in his time.

Then Thomas Reed a colonel of the local militia received a grant of 300 acres which included Buxton's Hill then called Reed's Hill. This grant extended to the Ipswich river and included the present Roger's farm.

Other names appear in the records of those days, among them being Daniel Epps, Robert Cole, Emanuel Downing, John Proctor, John Thorndike, William King. This list could be added to, and it is evident many local families of today descended from these hardy settlers. These men received grants of several hundred acres each, and thus from time to time the grants were subdivided and the foundation of Peabody of today was laid.

Humphrey's pond now Suntaug lake was granted to John Humphrey in 1635. In the grant it speaks of the little island which shielded the inhabitants from attacks of Indians. William Clark received a grant of 20 acres then called Sedar pond, now Cedar pond. While but a small body of water, it has caused more talk among Peabodyites than the Atlantic ocean.

South Peabody was originally called the Rocks. Later it became Rockyville. Grants to many persons in that vicinity were made, and Spring pond is mentioned. Two grants of land there to William Trask were sold later for the price of a cow or five pounds. Brown's pond appears also. It was granted to John Pickering.

It appears that the men who received grants were picked for their general fitness and piety. At a town meeting held in 1644 it was ordered that two men be picked to round up all who did not attend church, partly for the religious benefit and partly to prevent disorderly conduct and to guard against attack by Indians. It must be remembered the Indians kept all on the watch. As for disorderly conduct it is evident there was the usual percentage who did not heed the laws.

War with the Indians form an important part of the history of those days. The military organizations were recruited from the citizens living in the various parts of the towns, and some of the most famous officers lived in this section. The Pequot war in 1636 and 1637, the Bloody Brook in 1675, both against the famous King Philip. Three from this township were killed in the attack on an Indian fort. After this war a company of mounted men was organized and trained for further attacks from the Indians and other enemies.

By offering 50 acres of land to any one who would relinquish an acre in the settled portions, many moved back into the country and laid the foundations for the farms of today. The feeling of all the prominent men was to better the country and worked to that end. All was a life of sacrifice, work and little else. It was at this time that witchcraft appeared. John Proctor was executed for the offence and for a time feeling ran high. Years after in 1711, the General Court paid the family of John Proctor 150 pounds a large sum in those days.

Another of this section, Goodwife Corey was executed as a witch. She with her husband lived near where the West Peabody depot now stands. It was evident a form of spiritualism had taken hold of many people. It developed to the point that those in authority felt something radical must be done, thus the executions. Giles Corey later was executed in a manner which spoke of barbarism. The reaction against such punishments did away with witchcraft forever.

In 1710 a demand for another parish was finally brought before the General Court and after much pulling and hauling it was granted. The site chosen is where the present South church now stands. The first grant was one half acre. Afterward enough more land which took in the present land where the Universalist church is and westerly to the South church. It remained in possession of the ministry until sold in 1818 for $1500.00 to Mathew Hooper. The sale did not include the present South church property.

Rev. Benjamin Prescott was elected the first minister of the newly organized parish. It took several years to smooth out the many differences between the old and new parish. Rev. Prescott received eight pounds for his yearly services. Nothing is mentioned about being found. Window glass was scarce in those days, so the windows placed in the church were donated by members. It would be difficult for people of today to agree with church methods of those days. It was simply their way. Their ways of living in fact their whole life would appear a dream in these times.

As the sections grew, it became plain that a separation must soon take place. The taxes paid by some for the benefit of others did not appeal to their minds. Taxes even then raised ruptions. So with the present Peabody and Danvers fighting together, a series of petitions were sent the General Court. The King of England even took a hand and ordered that no separation take place without his consent. We were getting to be big people. In 1757 we became separated from Salem. We were to have our own representative at the General Court and would cease to pay the bills of Salem when no benefit was derived. Then it was a rivalry began between Salem and Peabody which still exists. The events of those days made it possible. Because of the King disallowing the separation it was not valid after 1759, but the revolution straightened matters and Danvers was never after that time without a representative in the General Court.

Up to the time of the revolution there was little that went wrong. Rev. Prescott had some difficulty in collecting his eight pounds a year for as now some did not pay up. There were no fires in the churches. Foot stoves were taken by those who needed heat. There is no record of any stimulants used for that purpose, although several taverns flourished in the community. Farmers had little money so exchanging or barter was the order of the day. No woolen clothing was used, so one can gather considerable praise for those who came before us.

The revolution was near at hand. Taxation without representation would not be tolerated. The refusal to drink tea ended in the Boston Tea Party. In November 1774 it was voted to adhere to all recommendations of the Provincial Congress, thus repudiating the government of England. On the 19th of April 1775

(Continued on page 16)

PRESENT VIEWS OF PEABODY SQUARE AN D MAIN STREET SHOWING THE TWO O'SHEA BUILDINGS AND THE WARREN NATIONAL BANK IN THE CENTER

PEABODY SQUARE AS IT LOOKED 75 YEARS AGO WITH TOWN PUMP IN FOREGROUND AND WARREN BANK THEN LOCATED IN THE ALLEN BLOCK.

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The Fancy Line
PEABODY .. MASS

SHEEPSKINS

We will make
ANY COLOR
ANY GRAIN
or
ANY FINISH
That is on the market
in
FANCY EMBOSSED LEATHERS
or
COLORED LININGS and SUEDES
for
THE SHOE TRADE

PEARSE LEATHER CORP.
PEABODY :-: MASS.

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A Peabody Institution

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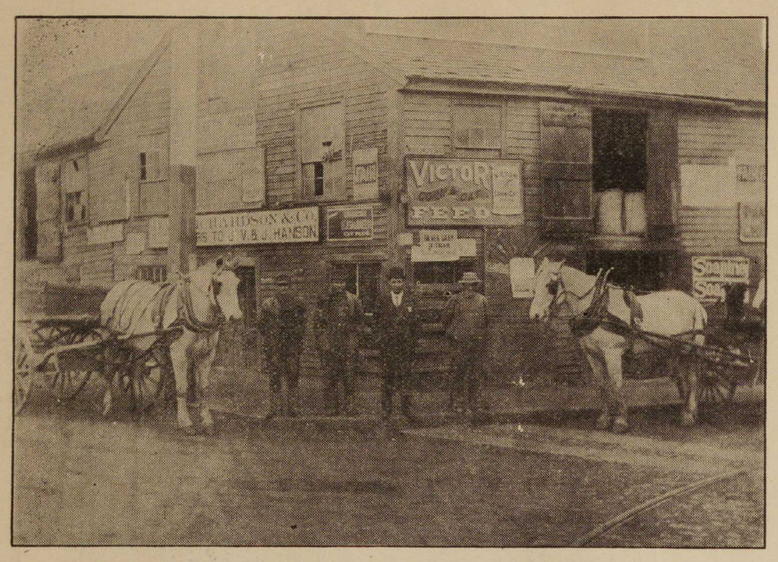
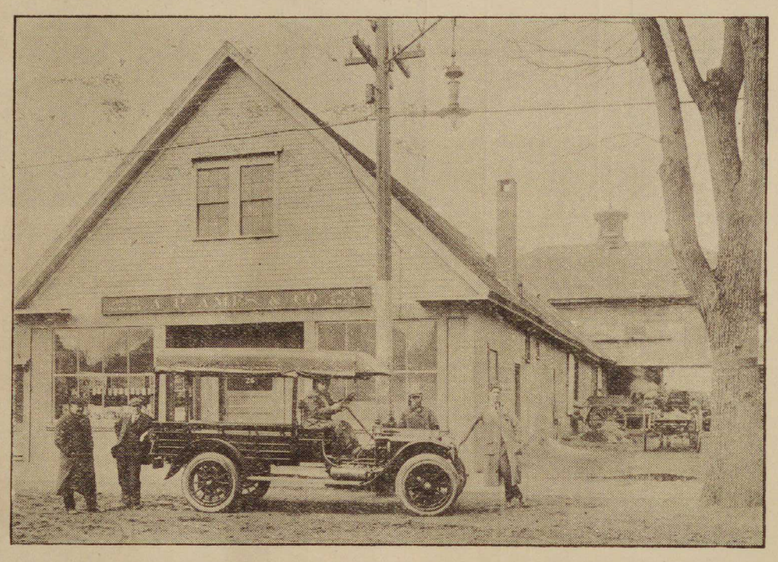


ESTABLISHED BY MR. MOULTON OVER 70 YEARS AGO

26 Central Street Peabody Mass.

GRAIN AND FARMERS' SUPPLIES

He was succeeded by J. V. and J. Hanson as a branch of their Salem Store. The Hansons were leaders in the grain business in their time. Day Richardson & Co. succeeded the Hansons in 1898. In 1904 the business was taken over by Albert P. Ames. Incorporated in 1921.



ALBERT P. AMES
President and Treasurer

ROBERT W. HILL
Clerk

J. S. GREENE
Director

W. A. SHEA, INC.

TOBACCO DEALERS

WHOLESALE and RETAIL

OUR business was established in Peabody twenty nine years ago in conjunction with Shea's restaurant on Lowell St. Later we added storehouse facilities in the rear of the Levine Block adjoining. In 1916 we erected our present store and warehouse at 31 Main street in order to keep pace with the demand of our rapidly increasing wholesale tobacco business which now embraces a large part of Essex County. Our present tobacco warehouse is provided with a natural humidor, by means of the construction, which insures the proper moisture and ventilation to keep our stock of cigars and other tobacco in perfect condition.

The W. A. Shea Inc. fleet of motor delivery trucks cover the whole North Shore from Lynn to Gloucester, and also gives service to storekeepers in Middlesex County.

WM. SHEA, President
EDW. J. RILEY, Vice President
WM. A. SHEA, Treasurer
JOS. V. WATERS, Secretary

Our business has been built on Honest Goods, Fair Prices and Faithful Service

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PEABODY, MASS., U. S. A.

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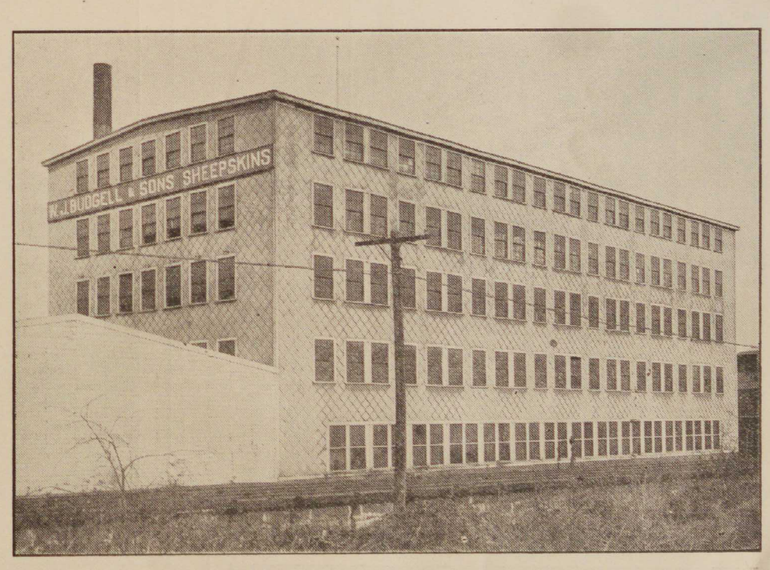

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GLAZED AND DULL BLACKS
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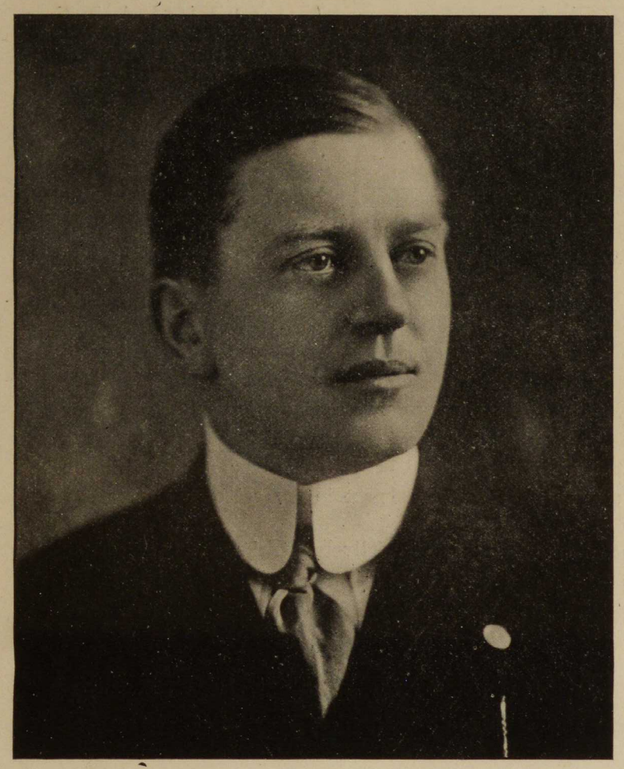
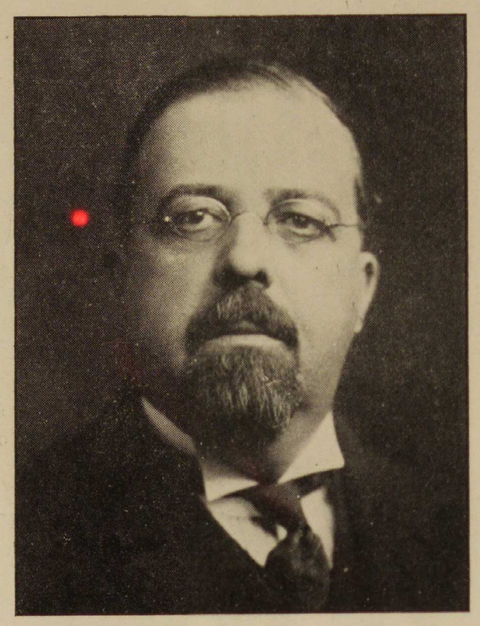
41 WALNUT ST., PEABODY, MASS.

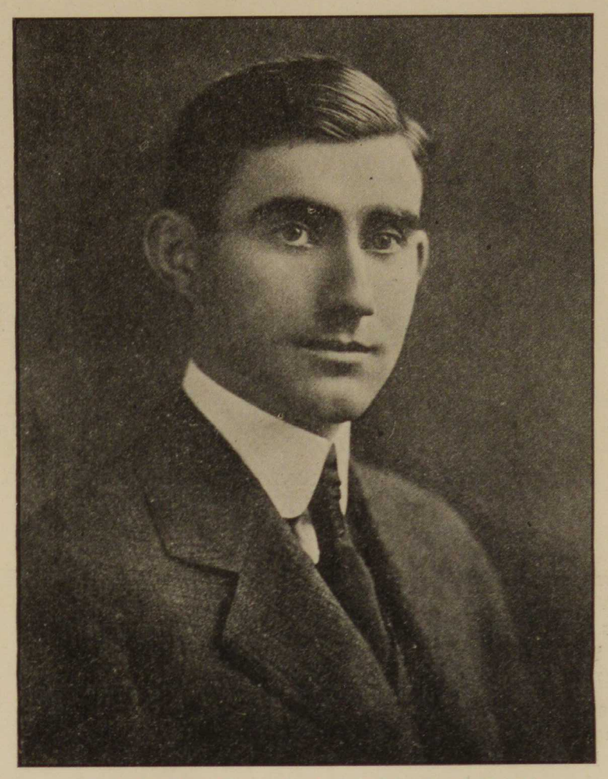
PROMINENT PEABODY OFFICIALS



SAMUEL HOWARD DONNELL, FIRST MAYOR



WARREN D. KING, MANAGER ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

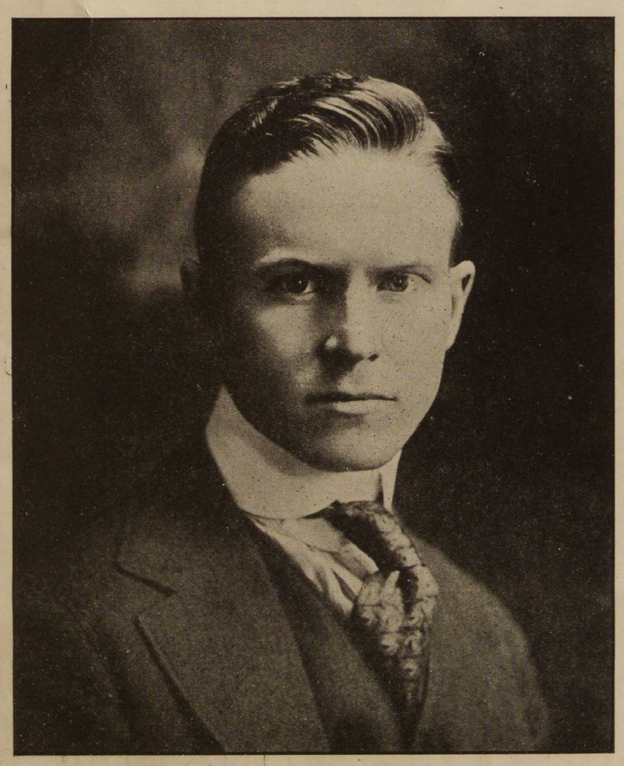


REPRESENTATIVE JAMES EDWARD McVANN

MICHAEL H. GRADY
CHIEF OF POLICE

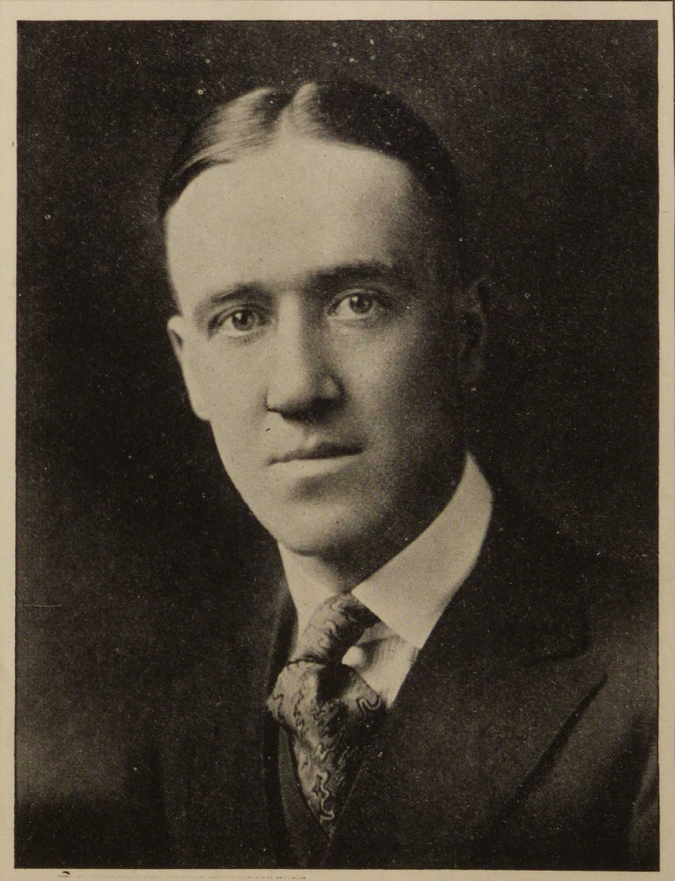
MAYOR WILLIAM A. SHEA

JESSE F. BARRETT
CHIEF OF FIRE DEPT.



ELMER J. FOLEY, CITY TREASURER

JOSEPH A. RYAN
PRESIDENT CITY COUNCIL

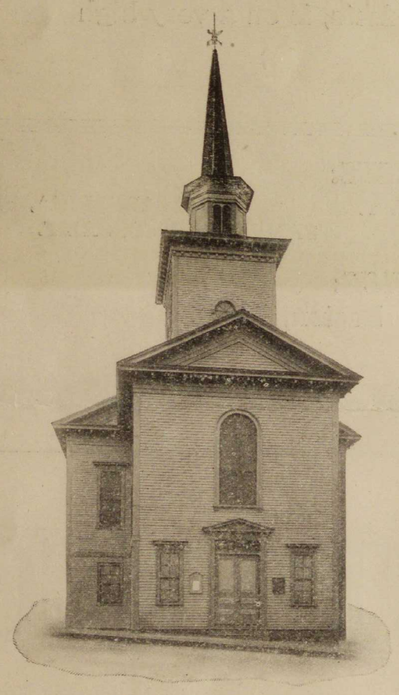


COUNCILLOR JOHN A. JONES, REPRESENTATIVE-ELECT

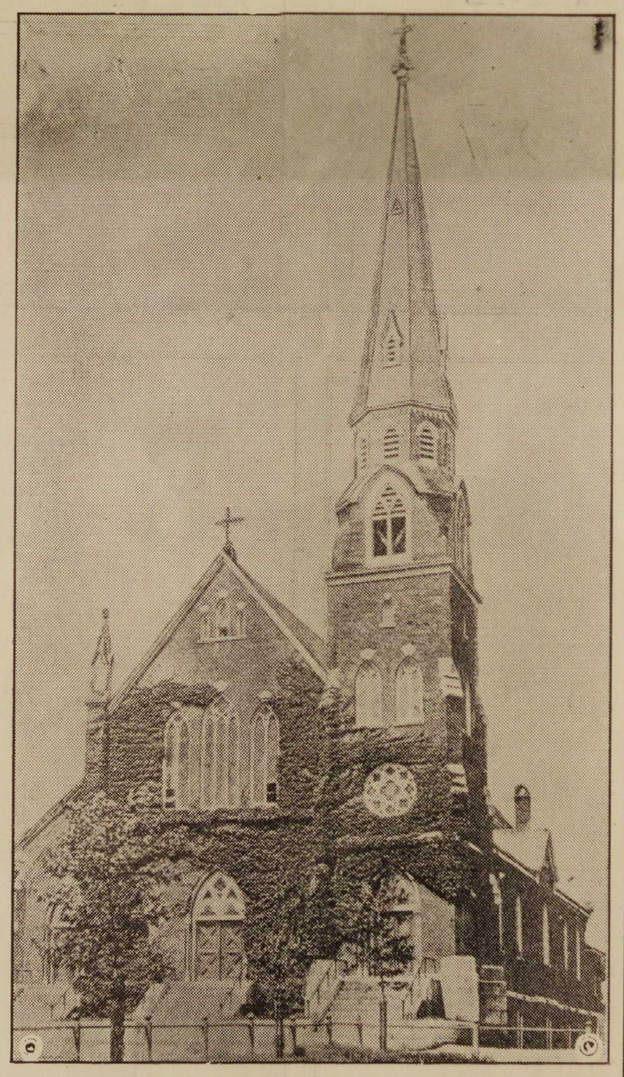
SOME VIEWS OF PEABODY CHURCHES

PANORAMIC VIEW OF PEABODY SQUARE LOOKING TOWARD CENTRAL STREET. SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, PEABODY'S OLDEST PARISH, ON THE LEFT.

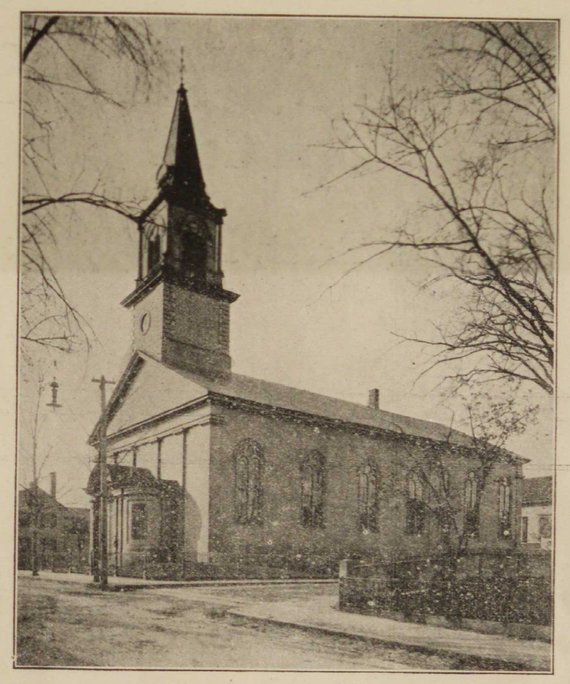
PHOTO OF ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH BUILT IN 1915 ON WASHINGTON STREET, OF ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE—ONLY STONE CHURCH IN CITY



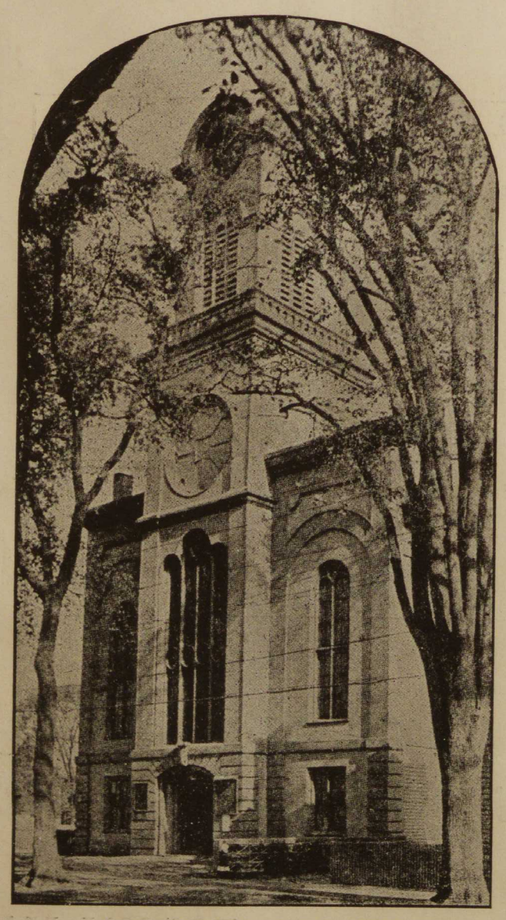
BAPTIST CHURCH



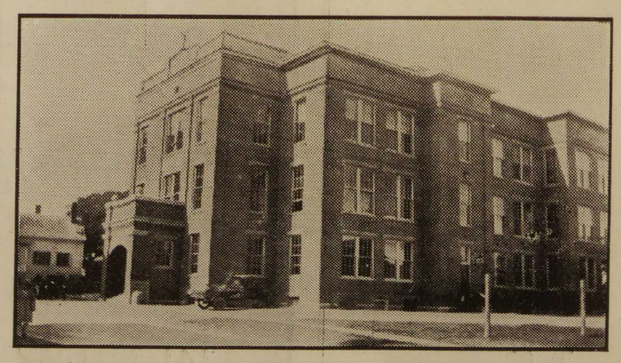
ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



UNITARIAN CHURCH



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



ST. JOHN'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL

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READINESS TO SERVE

WE are now well into our second half-year in Peabody and take this opportunity to express appreciation of the way in which the people have taken advantage of the service of this new office, both in the payment of bills and the ready purchase of quality appliances of which we display a complete line.

You will profit by talking over your Gas problems with us. It may be Lighting, Heating, Cooking, Industrial purposes or many other kindred uses. If it's for Gas we have it and you may draw from our fund of experience without cost. We shall be happy to have served you.

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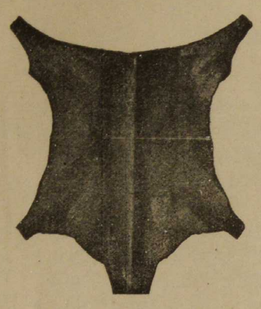
60 SOUTH STREET, BOSTON, MASS. 18 WALNUT, PEABODY, MASS.

Korn Leather Company

INCORPORATED 1907



MANUFACTURERS

Vienna Calf

Ooze Splits *Embossing Specialties*

THE KORN LEATHER COMPANY, INC. was first organized twenty-two years ago. It existed as a partnership until June 1907 when it was incorporated with Max Korn as President and Treasurer, and Rhoda Korn as director. The firm occupies an up to date factory at 16-18 Walnut Street with a daily capacity of 350 dozen sides. The main office is at the plant in Peabody, and a Sales office is maintained at 60 South Street, Boston, Mass. with agencies at St. Louis, Chicago, and New York.

Mr. Korn early perceived the large field awaiting development in the use of splits and has devoted his energies to the manufacture of splits exclusively. Chrome tanned, soft sole splits, linings, glove and dope splits have been the main specialties and wherever these leathers are used the Korn Leather Co. products have been leaders in excellence of workmanship and quality of stock. Aside from these every variety of tan and finish, every shade of color or fancy design are manufactured for every trade. With all the variety of leather produced by Peabody tanneries it is probable that the product of no other one shop is so widely distributed as that of the Korn Leather Company. The trapper in the frozen North, and the laborer in the sugar fields of Cuba, the wealthy lady in her silken boudoir and the miner in the grimy pits of Pennsylvania, the laborer in the steel mills of Pittsburgh and the man of leisure swinging his golf clubs on his favorite links. These represent to some extent the wide range of users of Korn Leather Co. products.

Inquiries are always welcome and while standard lines of fancy colors are carried in stock the resources of the factory are always available for the matching of special shades or developing a suitable product for any special requirement.

It has always been the policy of the Korn Leather Company to consider the buyers view point as important as the sellers and our customers interests as identical with our own. Our oldest customers are still our best and we offer our product and services to the trade confident that all our dealings will be mutually beneficial.

Established 1825

Munroe=Arnold=Merritt Express Company

Peabody - Salem - Boston

Express, Freight and Messenger Express Service

HEAVY MACHINERY MOVING

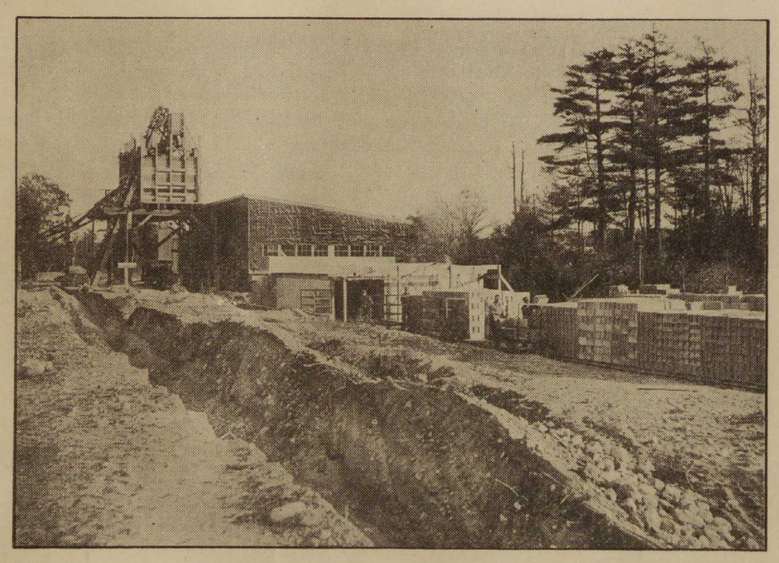
RELIABLE SERVICE FOR 97 YEARS

Palmer Concrete Products Co.

SAVE MONEY!
BUILD WITH
CONCRETE BLOCKS

MADE BY AUTOMATIC MACHINERY

IT IS CHEAPER THAN CLAY BRICK AND LASTS FOREVER



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Costs less to buy, costs less to lay and permits of the most rapid construction. Can be used as a face itself, or be faced with brick, stone or stucco.

The Concrete Block of this plant are far above the most rigid building requirements for strength and moisture resistance, and are strictly uniform. Units furnished in any quantities to conform to every requirement of standard wall dimensions.

We Have 10,000 on Hand at all Times and Can Make Prompt Delivery

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Established 1874 — Incorporated 1902

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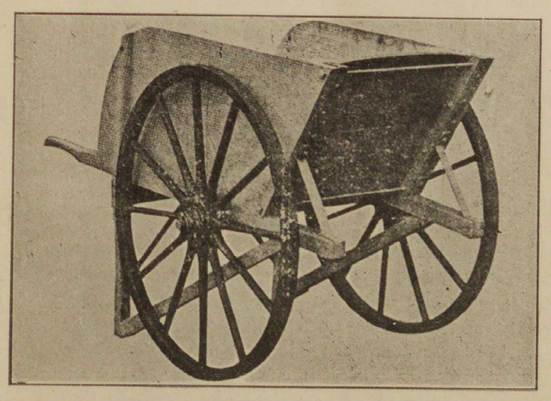
MISSISQUOI LIME WORKS, INC.		ANACONDA WOVEN BELTING
VERMARCO LIME CO.		BAY STATE LEATHER BELTING
KEYSTONE GLAZING STRAPS		KEYSTONE STEEL. PULLEYS
CARTER'S OIL APRONS		PLUMBIZED ACID PAILS



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This Barrow was introduced by us in 1902, and for the past 20 years has been **universally used** by the best Tanners in the New England States, Middle West and Canada.

QUALITY, PRICE and SERVICE
AT ALL TIMES

20 Main St. Peabody, Mass. 4 Mill St.

Storehouses:

RAILROAD AVE. FOSTER ST.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF PEABODY—TOWN AND CITY

(Continued from page 9)

a company of Minute Men under General Foster assembled. There were 26 men. Besides this company two others from Danvers, making 200 men who started for Lexington. They travelled the first 16 miles over brush and fences in four hours. There were seven of the minute men from Danvers killed in this engagement. Of these five belonged to General Foster's company therefore from Peabody that is. It was 60 years afterward that the monument at the corner of Main and Lowell streets was erected. The spot is where these hardy men gathered for their long march to Lexington. During the Revolutionary war 197 men from Danvers out of a population of 1800 served their country.

With the war fought to a successful ending there is little out of the regular routine of life to be depicted. The war of 1812 was not popular. A company of militia was organized however for protection and again General Foster was chosen to command.

The dedication of the Lexington monument 60 years after the battle was an impressive affair. The services were held in the South church which was filled to overflowing. General Foster who was old and feeble placed the parchment in the corner stone and made a short but eloquent address. A collation was served in the Essex Coffee House with the veterans of the Revolutionary war present. Patriotic sentiments and toasts followed which possibly might have been of the dry or dip variety. It is evident however that our forefathers had something besides cold or hot tea for a chaser.

On September 22, 1843 Danvers or the South Parish had its biggest fire. Most of the buildings on what is now Peabody square were razed to the ground. The South Church was a victim, and only by heroic efforts was the Unitarian church saved.

On the 16th of June 1852 the town of Danvers celebrated its hundredth anniversary. Although belonging properly to Danvers, the history of the two communities was so intermingled as to give Peabody its share of the proceedings. The usual exercises took place and the usual adjournment, this time to the Crowninshield mansion now a part of the A. C. Lawrence plant. It was at this dinner that a letter from George Peabody was read. It was opened after the toasts had been given, by the expressed wish of the donor. The sentiment which has become the motto of the endowments made by him for the benefit of education "Education —A debt due from the present to future generations". The total amount given by George Peabody for a Lyceum building at that time or up to 1856 was $50,000.00. In 1869 he raised the amount to $200,000.00.

As Danvers grew in population it became evident that a division of the north and south parish would be made. On May 18, 1855 the Legislature passed a new act dividing Danvers, the northerly section remaining under that name and the southerly section taking the name of South Danvers. The boundaries were somewhat changed in 1856 and remain that way today. The line between Salem and South Danvers was disputed often and it took several tries before the present line was established. At one time it passed through a house so that the occupant of a bed room there had his feet in Salem and the rest of him in South Danvers, or vice-versa if he became twisted. The Salem and Peabody line today is through several houses, but why get into another dispute?

At the centennial celebration George G. Smith said "It was a pleasant place this old town of ours when there were green fields and shady walks where now are dusty streets and busy factories. I shall never forget the old back way by the pond with its locust trees loading the air in its season of blossoms with their honey like fragrance. And the pond not as now shorn of its fair proportions, its green banks sloping gently down to the clear water and bordered with bright brushes and flowery water plants". Such is progress. What would be said this day ? Again a marvelous change. In 1855 the valuation of South Danvers was $2,944,500. Today, $21,965,000.00. It tells the story.

In these days of jazz and a general going to Hades it might be interesting to compare notes with the olden days. It is well to look into the future. It is well that movements are on foot all the time to keep the community decent. It goes with the world. Since the war all has been excess, so let us delve into the history of Peabody before it acquired that name and try and find out if those of the days before the civil war jazzed in perhaps another form. In the old days before railroads the taverns were important centers of interest. It was the headquarters of travellers as now. Public events were celebrated there which must mean John Barleycorn and his relations had one or two fingers in the pie. Of these taverns the Bell Tavern which stood where the O'Shea mansion now is at the corner of Main and Washington streets deserves honorable mention if allowable to put it that way. Even on election days this place held many who could not get out later in the day. Even the town officials met there which would be good campaign propaganda right now. It is spoken of as moist hospitality. The fiddler was there for those who wished to fly or dance, in fact it was an up-to-date jazz parlor. Eliza Wharton the coquette passed her last days in the Bell tavern and some of her earlier ones. There is enough history connected with this "oh be joyful" to fill as many pages as it did customers.

Then we had Dustin's Hotel situated on Peabody square in what is now known as the Mulcahy block. It was sometimes called the Sun Tavern because of a post in front with a sign of the blazing sun. It was an ideal spot to get "het" up. Built in 1825 its record was the record of all taverns, no place for a temperate man. Its life for this purpose was 60 years. It does not say how long the customers lived. There was the Essex Coffee House and another kept by Oliver Saunders. The celebrations on holidays is spoken of but the regular routine was the same.

So those of us who think we are going to the devil should bear in mind that the early settlers liked what some now like, and we are not on the verge of destruction. There are many people in this world who will insist that alcohol is needed in their system and are bound to have it and it leads many to believe it was placed on this earth for a purpose and that purpose can be arrived at from one's own point of view. Just food for thought.

So with the passing of the taverns because of railroads taking the traveller to larger cities, it started the new era of today. Hotels, a better name for the same places perhaps, carry on the work. It is certain that Danvers had its share of hostelries in those days. Today it is different. They served their time and no doubt brought together the people, which otherwise could not be accomplished in the small homes of the inhabitants.

In 1814 when there was much want among the poor, the Female Benevolent Society came into prominence. The original membership was 48 and they supplied clothing and food to the poor. Originally a South church organization as years went by other churches joined in the work. During its long years of existence many bequests were received which enabled it to increase its scope of work. Today the work is going on with every prospect of continuing for many future years.

The civil war was on in 1861. On the first call by President Lincoln 42 citizens answered. Then all joined together to do their bit, with the result that in the first six months of the war 300 enlisted. In all 874 men went into the service, and 71 gave their all for their country.

At the close of the civil war the population of Peabody was 6,050; the valuation $3,819,766.00.

By an act of the Legislature April 13, 1868 the name of the town was changed from South Danvers to Peabody. There was some opposition and George Peabody did not express a desire for the change. The majority however favored the change so with its new name, a name known throughout the English speaking world, we were launched on the ship which has carried us to success.

The Boston fire on November 10, 1872 was a severe blow to the tanning industry of Peabody. Some of the strongest concerns lost heavily by this fire but rallied and the tanning industry continued to grow. In 1880 there were 29 establishments in operation. The other industries of size were two glue factories and the Danvers Bleachery which did bleaching, dyeing and printing of cotton. Besides manufacturing there were 343 persons engaged in farming. The valuation of Peabody in 1887 was $7,186,900.00.

The strike of employes in the tanneries which started in 1885 and continued about a year, changed the aspect of tanning in Peabody. Because of the tendency of the older tanners to believe that the wax and kip leather which they had manufactured for years would continue, a fatal mistake was made, with the result that these kinds of leather were made elsewhere and the business slowly declined. Result, new blood came in, chrome leather became popular, and the tan vats by the hundreds about the town became a thing of the past. It was the beginning of an era where new faces were to take the helm and those who had passed their lives in the successful tanning of leather were to pass on. It was a climax unfitting for the many men who had given freely for the betterment of the town of their adoption or birth. But after all it is repetition of history.

The first to be elected representative to the Legislature from South Danvers was Richard Smith in 1857. Up to 1886 the voters showed their independence by electing men from both the Democratic and Republican parties, although the town was strongly Republican up to that time. In 1879 the Greenback party came into notice. While not strong enough politically to make a showing, the fact remains that Edward Trask was sent to the Legislature on this ticket. It all shows as today the voters call for a change. The history of Peabody shows conclusively that changes politically have occurred in years gone by and will in the future.

In 1881 the soldier's monument on Peabody square was built at a cost of $8,000.00. The old town hall on Stevens street was erected in 1854. The present city hall was built in 1882.

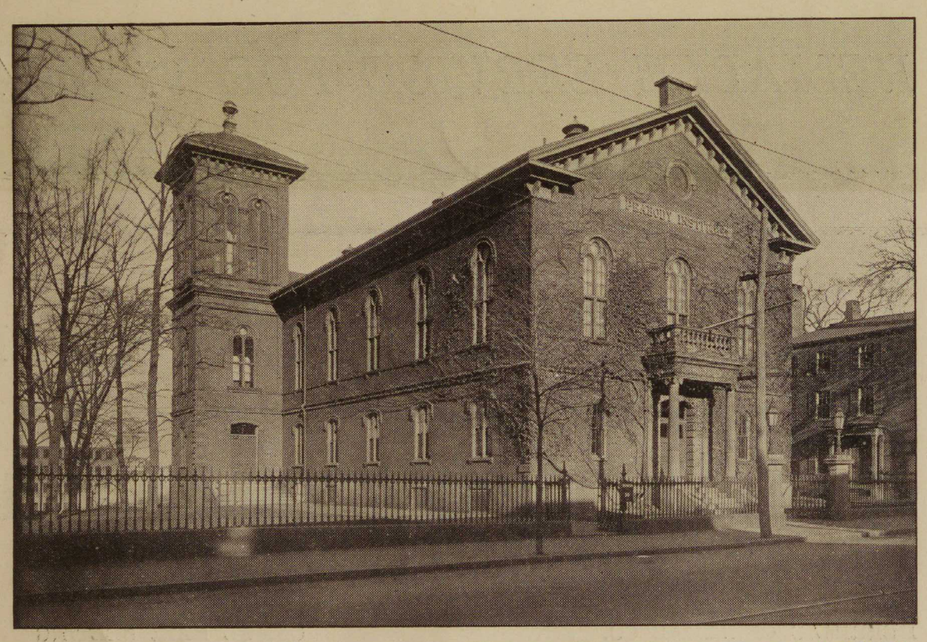
The first fire engine in Danvers was purchased in 1800. The Niagara purchased in 1822 was kept where the Sutton block on Main street now stands. A fire department was organized in 1830, and the Torrent which we of today knew, was added. Then came the Eagle and General Foster, Volunteer, all hand engines. The first steam fire engine was purchased in 1865. In 1874 another of the same type and a hand engine the S. C. Bancroft for South Peabody. High pressure water service put the hand tubs out of commission and hose companies took their places. So this most important department has kept with the times and needed apparatus added from time to time.

The churches of Peabody are linked with its history. The South church, the oldest of the number, has been mentioned before in this article. It served as the mother church long and faithfully. The Unitarian Church was organized in 1825. It started with 33 members. The Methodist society began their work in 1830. The Universalist society was organized in 1832. The Baptist society was organized in 1843. The Second Congregational church was organized in 1881. The West Congregational Church became an organization September 6, 1883. St. John's Catholic church laid the corner stone of the present edifice August 20, 1871. The first services were held there December 25, 1871. The final opening was in September 1872, and was dedicated November 30, 1879. The St. Paul's Episcopal church held their first services April 2, 1874.

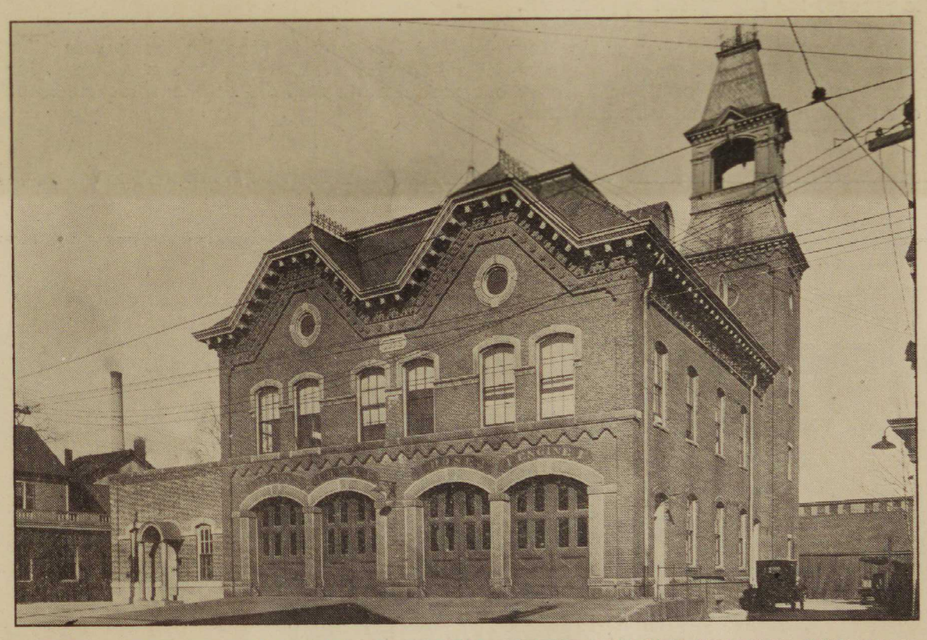
Peabody Institute donated by George Peabody as a lyceum and library was dedicated September 29, 1854. The library was opened October 18, 1854. In 1856 there were 5,300 volumes. The lecture course began November 29, 1854. Fitch Poole was elected the first librarian. After his death Theodore M. Osborn was elected to the position. He resigned in 1880 and was succeeded by J. Warren Upton a teacher in the public schools. He in turn was succeeded by Lyman P. Osborn and it is now in charge of John E. Keefe. The Peabody Institute has carried on all these years, constantly adding books to the library. It is one of the big assets of our great leather city.

It is becoming at this time to give a brief history of the life of George Peabody whose gifts to Peabody helped in no small measure to make it prosper, bringing it to the city of today. He was born on Washington street in the house now owned by the American Glue Co. Poverty compelled him to face the world at the age of 11. From a grocer's clerk he finally located in Baltimore and at the age of 19 became a partner in a general store. He rode through the country on horseback selling his wares and prospered to the extent of becoming a banker in London, England. For 20 years he acquired wealth in the millions. He did not forget

(Continued on page 19)



PEABODY INSTITUTE LIBRARY ON MAIN STREET PRESENTED BY GEORGE PEABODY MILLIONAIRE LONDON BANKER WHO WAS BORN HERE



CENTRAL FIRE HEADQUARTERS ON LOWELL STREET OPPOSITE PEABODY CITY HALL NOW EQUIPPED WITH MOTOR FIRE APPARATUS AND TWO PLATOON SYSTEM